

RECREATION & PARK D 961 EMBARCADERO DEL MAR ISLA VISTA, CA

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June 1, 2005

Board of Directors

Douglas Bosco Chairperson California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway 11th Floor

Bryan Brown Kelly Burns Diane Conn

Oakland, Ca 94612-2530

RE:

County of Santa Barbara application for Coastal Conservancy Isla Vista Access Ways Improvements

Alisha Dahlstrom

Logan Green

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Staff

Derek Johnson General Manager

Angela Kamm Executive Secretary

> Jeffrey Yolles Bookkeeper

Enid Osborn Board Secretary

Anne E. Aziz Rec. Coordinator

Jay Scheidemen Grounds Supervisor

MORE THAN JUST PARKS

The Park District strongly supports the County of Santa Barbara's application for Coastal Conservancy funding totaling \$150,000 to improve the Escondido Pass, Camino Pescadero, and Camino Del Sur Beach access ways in Isla Vista. This letter is to support the County's current application, and to express our commitment to develop and implement a comprehensive and cohesive landscape and facility plan once the proposed improvements are completed and the property is transferred to the District.

The attraction of Isla Vista is not just UCSB's academic excellence, but the surrounding student community of Isla Vista and the proximity of beaches and natural areas. The beach access ways mentioned in the application are three of the five access ways in Isla Vista. These three sites provide critical beach access for the community and are the only means of accessing Isla Vista beaches and surf areas, such as Pesci's and Depressions. Furthermore, the Camino Del Sur and Escondido Pass sites provide beach access to emergency personnel and are the only access ways by which to extricate swimmers and surfers who get into trouble during the high surf and spring tides.

Certain components of the access ways are nearing the end of their life cycles, and in order to add some useful life to them, a tremendous amount of retrofitting and design work needs to be done. The improvements being considered were tried and tested at Camino Del Sur in 1998, where the access way has stayed in service since improvements, despite heavy surf and storms. The District is confident that if the same engineering and materials were used at Camino Pescadero and Escondido Pass, these access ways could remain open for the continuous enjoyment and safety of Isla Vista residents and visitors.

Once the improvements have been completed and the property is transferred to the District, we anticipate seeking funding for planning and eventual implementation of landscape improvements from other sources. However, the first step is to ensure that the access ways stay safe and open, and for this reason, we strongly support the County's funding request. Please let me know if you have any questions or if the District can be of any assistance in helping the Coastal Conservancy board make a decision.

Sincerely yours,

Chairperson

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.